

Waterfowl Survey for the week of

November 20, 2008

Survey Areas	Ducks				Geese		
	Total	Mallards	Other Dabblers	Divers	Total	Dark	Light
Spirit Lake Areas	100	100%	0%	0%	9000	100%	0%
Ruthven Areas	1600	100%	0%	0%	3100	89%	11%
Ingham Areas	300	95%	1%	5%	4000	100%	0%
Black Hawk Lake	1400	91%	4%	5%	700	100%	0%
Bays Branch Areas	2000	86%	14%	0%	11300	100%	0%
Rice Lake Areas	3100	98%	2%	0%	12200	100%	0%
Big Marsh	2100	87%	13%	0%	1900	100%	0%
Sweet Marsh	1100	96%	2%	2%	500	100%	0%
Green Island	4300	82%	18%	0%	3600	100%	0%
Princeton	400	72%	26%	2%	0		
Lake Odessa Areas	22100	91%	9%	0%	2200	100%	0%
Coralville Areas	1700	86%	14%	0%	100	100%	0%
Otter Creek	6400	63%	38%	0%	500	100%	0%
Saylorville Areas	3300	92%	8%	0%	600	100%	0%
Red Rock	2400	34%	0%	66%	200	100%	0%
Rathbun Areas	4300	79%	6%	15%	3900	100%	0%
Lake Icaria	700	76%	0%	24%	600	100%	0%
Union County Areas	1800	85%	0%	15%	1100	100%	0%
Lake Sugema	100	100%	0%	0%	0		
Missouri River Oxbows	10200	99%	0%	1%	6400	99%	1%
Riverton/Forney	22400	80%	15%	5%	100	50%	50%
Total	90900	85%	11%	4%	61600	100%	1%

Weather and migrations during the survey period:

Clearing skies, northwesterly winds, and colder temperatures dominated the past weekend. Temperatures remained below or near freezing for most of the week except on Tuesday when southerly winds briefly pushed temperatures above freezing in north Iowa. By the end of the day, however, the temperatures were once again falling. A series of fast moving cold fronts moved across the state, the second one pushing temperatures into the single digits for much of the state (Thursday night & Friday morning). Most marshes and shallow lakes froze over Tuesday night, while large lakes, such as Clear Lake, were completely ice-covered by Friday morning. With the exception of Spirit Lake, the only open water areas in north Iowa on Friday were air-holes kept open by waterfowl, artificial aeration holes, and parts of rivers and streams. Despite several periods of northwest winds, duck and goose numbers fell on most areas.